Review of Current Education Policy

4415. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN :
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 65 per cent of the people who receive primary education in rural areas cannot read or write properly;

(b) whether due to this Government think of reviewing the current education policy;

(c) if so, the details on which Government plan to act upon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The National Policy on Education (NPE) and its Programme of Action provide for a definite edge for education in rural areas. Pursuant to this, a number of schemes including Technical Education are under various stages of implementation that predominantly address the educational needs of rural areas. The Government launched the scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in November, 2000 to pursue universal quality elementary education in a mission mode. The NPE further provides for comprehensive programmes of post-literacy and continuing education for neo-literates and youth who have received primary education with a view to enabling them to retain and upgrade their literacy skills and to harness it for the improvement of their living and working condition.

IIT at Basara

4416. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to establish an IIT at Basara, Adilabad District, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, when it will be established; and

(c) if not, whether Government will consider the request of the Government of Andhra Pradesh to establish it at Basara?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to set up an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) at Basara, Adilabad District, Andhra Pradesh. This has already been conveyed to the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Beneficiaries under ICDS

4417. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of beneficiaries under Integrated Child Development Scheme, during the last five years; year-wise and State-wise;

(b) amount that has been released during the last five years; year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the National Family Health Services have shown that the scheme is not Penetrating as expected to the beneficiaries; and

(d) if so, the comments of the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA) : (a) The information is given in the Statement I (See below).

(b) The information is given in the statement II (See below).

(c) & (d) National Family Health Surveys were not specifically with reference to the impact of the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme. As per the National Family Health Survey-I (1992-93), the prevalence of underweight in children (0-4 years) was 53.40%; percentage of severely malnourished children (0-4 years) was 20.60; Infant Mortality Rate was 78.50 per 1000 live births and low birth weight was 33%. In National Family Health Survey-2 (1998-99), the prevalence of underweight in children (0-3 years) declined to 47%; percentage of severely malnourished children (0-3 years) reduced to 18.00; Infant Mortality Rate came down to 67.60 per 1000 live births and low birth weight became 22.70%.